

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, May 20, 2004**

**Members Present:** Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Judge Donald Armstrong, Jr.; Mike Hettich (designee for Col. John Aubrey); Walker Cunningham (Designee for Irv Maze); Sheri All Cunningham; George DeTella; President Kelly Downard; Dan Goyette; Roger Henderson; Thomas Dyke (Designee for David Huber); Richard Lewis; Debbie Linnig Michals (Designee for Tony Miller); Randall Moser (Designee for Debora McGill); Harry Rothgerber (Designee for Dave Stengel); Tim Vize; Laura Volk (Designee for Karl Stankovic); Lt. Col. Terri Winstead (Designee for Chief White); and Louis Willis.

**Excused Members:** Kim Allen; Reverend Charles Duncan; Robert Schmitt; and Clarence Williams.

**Guests Present:** Laura Douglas (LG&E Energy Corporation); Harry Mills (NAMI Kentucky); Jeni Gamble (Center for Women and Families); Sharon Brite (LMPD); Julie Hayes (District Court Administrator); Russ Stapleton (LMPD); Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Amy Turner (Center for Women and Families); and Sara Penn (intern – Louisville Collegiate School).

**Staff Present:** David Nicholson; Toya Waters; Bruce McMichael; Faith Hartlage; and Stephanie Stidham.

**I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

Harry Rothgerber, designee for Vice-Chair Dave Stengel, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Mr. Rothgerber asked all attendees to introduce themselves. He announced that Judge Montano was finishing a court hearing and would join the meeting shortly.

Mr. Rothgerber formally introduced and welcomed the new Louisville Metro Corrections Director, George DeTella who started at Metro Corrections May 10th. He brings to Corrections over 25 years of experience in the corrections field, most of which was with the Illinois Department of Corrections. Mr. Rothgerber presented Mr. DeTella with a Commission lapel pin. Also, each member and guest were given a “new” lapel pin reflecting the Commission’s new name.

**II. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 18, 2004 MEETING**

Judge Montano joined the meeting and thanked Mr. Rothgerber for opening the meeting in her absence. The meeting summary of the March 18, 2004 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

**III. CHAIR’S REPORT**

Judge Montano introduced Sara Penn, an intern from Louisville Collegiate School, who is providing assistance to the local courts during her internship.

Judge Montano reminded Commission members about the Drug Field-Testing Committee and its status. She reported that given the commitment from Lt. Governor Pence, who is also the Justice Cabinet Secretary, to reducing the extreme backlog of drug laboratory analysis requests by July 2004, that we may not implement a drug field-testing program in Jefferson County. She indicated that the

Kentucky State Police (KSP) lab is addressing the backlog and things are now moving in the right direction to meet the reduction goal. In addition, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) has agreed to equip a District courtroom with the necessary technology to allow for video testimony by KSP lab technicians. This technology application will save an enormous amount of travel and preparation time by allowing the chemist more time to process cases in the lab.

Judge Montano also reported on the Jail Policy Committee. The Jail Policy Committee contracted with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) for a jail population study to review the growing population within Metro Corrections. The study's intent is to enable Corrections to be proactive and not reactive to this trend. Next month, a report should be issued by the NIC documenting its on-site technical assistance visit concerning implementing a Jail Population Analysis System within Metro Corrections.

Lastly, Judge Montano announced that the Commission's 2003 Annual Report would be distributed later in the meeting. The report has a new look and its format should make for easier reading. Also, she noted that next month the Commission should receive the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Drug, Alcohol and Violent Crime Report from the Louisville Metro Police. Until this year, Commission staff was responsible for this report, but in the Merger reorganization, the responsibility was transferred to the Police Department.

#### **IV. PRESENTATIONS**

**Laura Douglas, Director External Communications, LG&E Energy Corporation** - Ms. Douglas is also the Chair of the Citizens Commission on Police Accountability, a group receiving staff support from the Criminal Justice Commission. Ms. Douglas spoke on a very exciting new program recently initiated by LG&E and Kentucky Utilities (KU). The National Crime Prevention Council in partnership with "McGruff", the crime-fighting dog, supports the program. "McGruff" decals are placed on all LG&E and KU trucks, consisting of 800 trucks in 17 counties within the local LG&E region as well as an additional 77 counties serviced by KU. Most children recognize the vehicles and the "McGruff" motto. Therefore, the truck is used as a safety net or a safe haven if a child is in trouble and needs attention. Once a child has waved down a truck driver, the driver remains with the child outside the vehicle until police have arrived. All drivers go through a criminal background check and are trained on how to determine if a kid needs help (distressed wave) or if a kid is illustrating a friendly wave. Kids are also trained on proper techniques of waving down a driver and they receive incentives for participating in the training program. The statewide program kick-off occurred on April 6<sup>th</sup> in Maysville, Kentucky and on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln Elementary in Louisville. Ms. Douglas will forward an information packet and a video to David Nicholson if members are interested in additional information.

**Harry Mills, State Advocacy Director, NAMI Kentucky** – presented on NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) and criminal justice-related services. Mr. Mills spoke of a family member's experience with mental illness as his motivation for becoming interested in NAMI Kentucky. NAMI is an advocacy group that promotes educating the general public; hosts support groups, and assists with individuals accessing services. NAMI Kentucky works with the faith community and the criminal justice system. It has developed a training module used by the Department of Criminal Justice Training in Richmond, Kentucky to train police and jailers across the State. He distributed brochures on the NAMI KY 2004 Criminal Justice Forum. The Forum will be held on June 25, 2004 at the Holiday Inn on Hurstbourne Lane. Commission members and guests were invited to attend. The forum is for representatives of the criminal justice system, mental health planning and delivery systems, the judicial system, and the general public. Lt. Governor Steve Pence is scheduled as the forum's keynote speaker. NAMI works to help prevent mentally ill individuals from having unnecessary interactions with the law, to divert the mentally ill to treatment instead of jail, to assist the mentally ill who are in jail in getting necessary treatment and a medical assessment, to prevent recidivism, and to facilitate reintegration into society.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Warrant Committee – David Nicholson** reported that the Warrant Process Committee has not met since the last Commission meeting, but the next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2004. The Warrant Fugitive Task Force, under the auspices of the United States Marshal Service, has been successful in apprehending individuals with outstanding warrants. Bruce McMichael continues to collect monthly Jefferson County warrant data from AOC and maintain the local warrant database.

**B. Jail Policy Committee – David Nicholson** announced that the NIC consultants provided on-site technical assistance on April 14<sup>th</sup> and presented to the committee. The consultants are preparing a report for the committee to review. The report will consist of suggested next steps and recommendations. The Jail Population Analysis System (JPAS) has been added to several computers at Metro Corrections, and Commission staff will assist with the JPAS analysis. Another committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

**D. Computerization Committee - Tim Vize, Chair** advised that the committee has not met since the last Commission meeting. The next meeting will be scheduled soon to continue oversight of the local E-citation project.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

David Nicholson reported on the following:

**Justice Reinvestment Project** - staff are providing assistance in the development of a project proposal funded by the Soros Foundation. The proposal is primarily for a planning project for offender reintegration. Research illustrates that 44% of all prisoners released from Oldham County prisons reintegrate back into Jefferson County. This project focuses planning efforts on local neighborhoods and community participation.

**MetroSafe** - Mayor Jerry E. Abramson will have a kick-off meeting to unveil the MetroSafe project on May 25, 2004 at 10:00a.m. in the Mayor's Gallery. All Commission members are invited to attend the meeting.

**Grants Activity** - the Kentucky Department of Homeland Security announced that \$35M is now available for homeland security initiatives within the State. It is a competitive grant process with a total of \$26M available for first responders and \$7.8M for law enforcement. Erwin Roberts, Director, Kentucky Department of Homeland Security, has encouraged multiple jurisdictions to collaborate on initiatives. All grant proposals are due June 25, 2004 and awards will be given on September 1, 2004. Louisville Metro will be submitting an application that will include State and local partners.

**2003 Annual Report** - staff distributed the 2003 Annual Report. David Nicholson noted the new format, and asked members to report comments to the Commission office.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mike Hettich, First Deputy, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, reported on the School Resource Officer Program. Eighteen school resource officers, nine Sheriff Deputies and nine Louisville Metro Police officers, are in Jefferson County Schools. Thus far, school staff has given positive comments regarding the program, and the officers' commitment is exceptional. He thanked the Commission staff for its grant assistance and continued support.

Judge Armstrong thanked the Sheriff's Office for its commitment to reopening the 7<sup>th</sup> Street entrance of the Hall of Justice. AOC purchased new equipment, and the Sheriff's Office has agreed to provide Deputies to staff the entrance.

#### **VIII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.